



Fall 2016

Participant's Catalog

Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for prayerfully considering becoming part of a Centenary UMC Growth Group. CUMC Growth Groups are comprised of usually 12-15 people who meet weekly in a convenient location to learn more about God, grow in their faith and grow in their relationship with each other. The groups meet to study a specific topic or book for approximately 10-12 weeks. The groups, the books they are studying, and the time and place they meet are listed in this catalog. The commitment is short-term, but the positive impact on you, the church, and the others in the group could be for eternity.

You can sign up by calling the church office at 965-3455, e-mailing the church office (centenaryumcoffice@yahoo.com), marking the Growth Group you want to join on the back of the colored attendance card in the bulletin, or by visiting the Growth Group Sign-Up table after church services every weekend in September.

Please call the church office with any questions or concerns.

Growth Groups Important Dates for Fall 2016

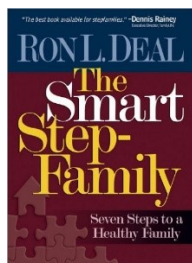
*Weekends of September 11, 17/18, 24/25: **Registration (Sign-Up)***

- sign-up sheets on tables with a copy of the chosen resource
- back of the colored attendance card inside your bulletin
- call or e-mail the church office

*October 2 - December 17: **Groups Meet Weekly***

Growth Groups should meet weekly during this 11-week period and be completed by Saturday, December 17.

Step-Parenting Group For parents of blended families. Led by Art & Lois Finnigan. Group meets in the Serenity Room Mondays at 6:30 p.m. beginning October 3.



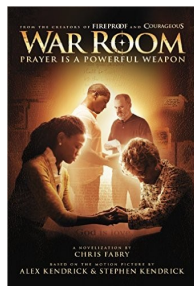
Art & Lois feel called by God to open their hearts and minds to their experience with step-parenting. Their resource, *The Smart Step-Family: Seven Steps to a Healthy Family*, by leading step-family expert Ron Deal, offers a revised and expanded edition of his signature resource, which addresses key concerns and practical issues facing every step-family.

Teens-Narnia Growth Group For teens. Led by Jadyn Meyer. Group meets in the Serenity Room Sunday afternoons at 4:30 p.m. beginning October 2.



This growth group aimed at youth 12 years of age and up will be reading and discussing epic battles between good and evil, fantastic creatures, betrayals, heroic deeds, and friendships won and lost all in the enchanted world of Narnia. Jadyn Meyer will be leading this group which each week will read and discuss parallels between Christianity and C.S. Lewis' famous book series *The Chronicles of Narnia*. They will begin with *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, where four siblings play a game of hide and seek and wind up entering a magical land. Once there, they discover a world inhabited by beasts, dwarfs, and giants and find themselves in a battle to defeat a witch.

Retired and Re-Fired Group For folks of retirement age or above who want to be Re-Fired! Led by Betty Gleason. Group meets in the Serenity Room at noon on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month beginning on October 10.



During this term, the group will be reading *War Room* by Chris Fabry, a novel based on the Alex and Stephen Kendrick movie.

Juggling motherhood and her job as a real-estate agent, Elizabeth Jordan wishes her husband could help more around the house. But Tony's rising career as a pharmaceutical salesman demands more and more of his time. With a nice home in the suburbs and a lovely young daughter, they appear to have it all, yet they can't seem to spend time together without fighting. Hoping for a new listing, Elizabeth visits the home of Clara Williams, an elderly widow, and is both amused and uncomfortable when Clara starts asking pointed questions about her marriage and faith. But it's Clara's secret prayer room, with its walls covered in requests and answers, that has Elizabeth most intrigued . . . even if she's not ready to take Clara's suggestion that she create a prayer room of her own. As tensions at home escalate, though, Elizabeth begins to realize that her family is worth fighting for, and she can't win this battle on her own. Stepping out in blind faith, putting her prayers for her family and their future in God's hands, might be her only chance at regaining the life she was meant for.

Christmas Unplugged Growth Group For anyone. Led by JoAnn Meyer. Group meets in the Serenity Room Sundays after Coffee Fellowship (approximately 11:45 a.m.) beginning October 9.



Nine years and thirteen printings later, *Unplug the Christmas Machine* is still the undisputed guide to creating a joyful, stress-free holiday season. Revised and filled with new material, this book will enjoy even greater popularity in the years to come.

In the pages of *Unplug the Christmas Machine*, Jo Robinson and Jean Coppock Staeheli answer the questions they have heard most often in their many years of talking with people about Christmas, such as: "How can I reduce the stress of preparing for Christmas?" "How can I make our celebration more spiritual and less materialistic?" "How can I get my husband to be more enthusiastic about Christmas?" "How can I get my wife to relax and enjoy the celebration?" and "How can I help my children see that Christmas is more than just presents?" Readers will turn to this book for inspiration and practical advice year after year.

Sixteen years after it first appeared, this perennial favorite is still the book that thousands turn to for sound, no-nonsense advice on how to combat Christmas commercialism and create a joyful, stress-free holiday season. The authors answer all the most commonly asked questions, from "How can I reduce the stress of preparing for Christmas?" to "How can I teach my children that Christmas means more than just presents?" and many more.